

a tool path data generator ~~[[to]]~~ for generating~~[[e]]~~ tool path data on the basis of the cutting method ~~set~~ determined by the cutting method ~~setting~~ determining unit; and

a machining information generator for generating, on the basis of the cutting method determined by the cutting method determining unit and on information stored in the tool/cutting data storage, machining information including tool consumption to machine to final form, estimated time to tool wear-out, and estimated time to machine to final form.

**Claim 2 (currently amended):** The tool path data generation apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

on the basis of the extracted feature data the cutting method ~~setting~~ determining unit divides a workpiece into ~~[[a]]~~ machining areas corresponding to ~~for each the final-form features shape on the basis of the feature data extracted by the feature data extractor and sets to determine the cutting method~~ for each ~~divided~~ machining area division the optimal cutting method~~[[.]]~~; and

the tool path data generator generates~~[[ing]]~~ tool path data ~~every~~ for each machining area division on the basis of the cutting methods determined ~~set~~ by the cutting method ~~setting~~ determining unit.

**Claim 3 (canceled)**

**Claim 4 (currently amended):** The tool path data generation apparatus as claimed in claim ~~2~~<sup>1</sup>, further comprising a cutting scenario output unit ~~[[to]]~~ for outputting the cutting methods determined ~~set~~ by the cutting method ~~setting~~